

MEMORANDUM
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY HEALTH
LANSING, MICHIGAN 48909-7979

DATE: July 2008
TO: Families of Children with Special Needs
FROM: Mary J. Marin, Executive Director, Family Center
Nancy Deising, Care Coordination Specialist, Parent
Children's Special Health Care Services (CSHCS) Division

SUBJECT:



Heart-to-Heart Updates

The Family Center (FC) is a section of the Children's Special Health Care Services (CSHCS) Division of the Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH). CSHCS is part of MDCH's Bureau of Family, Maternal and Child Health.

CSHCS primarily provides medical specialty care to children with a qualifying diagnosis. The FC serves families of all children with special needs. The Family Support Network of Michigan (FSN) is the FC's parent-to-parent support arm.

Mary J. Marin
Executive Director

Lisa Cook-Gordon
Transition Consultant

Nancy Deising
Parent Communications Consultant

Randy Krause
FSN Coordinator

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Information & Resource Specialist

Rebecca Start
Program Specialist

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Secretary

CSHCS Family Phone Line
1-800-359-3722
8 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday- Friday

Events and resources are compiled by the Family Center from a variety of sources. A listing does not stand for endorsement.



A Word from Mary...

We are back up and running full-of-heart! It has been way too long since our last update. Many exciting changes have been going on. We are thrilled to announce the arrival of Nancy Deising, the FC parent consultant and care coordination specialist, and Lois Turbett, Regional Nurse Consultant for CSHCS. If you would like to start getting the updates by e-mail, get in touch with **Dianna Rigato** at 313-456-4385 or e-mail:

RigatoD@michigan.gov or go to www.michigan.gov/cshcs for an online copy.

Have a wonderful and safe summer! *Mary J. Marin*♥

Children Special Health Care Services (CSHCS) Update

Welcome Nancy! Nancy Deising is the new birth defects follow-up coordinator working to develop a medical home system for children and youth with special health care needs. She will also be working on the month Heart-to-Heart Updates. Nancy will split her time between the birth defects program and the CSHCS Family Center. Nancy's background is in public health education. She has many years experience working with doctors and public health systems as a Michigan Care Improvement Registry (MCIR) coordinator. Nancy lives in Grand Rapids and has three toddlers; one child has special needs. She can be contacted at 517-335-0407 or by e-mail at deisingn@michigan.gov ♥

Welcome Lois! Lois Turbett, Regional Nurse Consultant has responsibilities for the western area of Michigan. Her previous experiences include public health nursing services to Monroe County Health Department for thirteen years, five of which were with CSHCS. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Nursing, a Master of Science in Parent-Child Nursing from the University of Michigan and she is a Certified Pediatric Nurse Practitioner. Prior to accepting the position with CSHCS, Lois served as a Nurse with Michigan Department of Corrections. She is thrilled to be back with CSHCS and is looking forward to meeting local CSHCS staff, by phone and in person. She can be contacted at 517-241-5018 or by e-mail at turbettl@michigan.gov♥



2008 Family Guide to Michigan's CSHCS Program is offered online! Lots of changes have been made to the guide. To see a copy of the guide, go to www.michigan.gov/CSHCS and select The Family Center for Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs link, click on the Family Guide link to see or print. Check out "Information & Resources" on pages 6-15, page 14 "Parent to Parent Tip!" page 24 "Coverage", and page 36-39 "Looking Ahead." Copies are offered for families by request. Call the Family Center at 1-800-359-3722 for your copy today! ♥

Family Center (FC) for Children & Youth with Special Health Care Needs Update

The Bureau of Family, Maternal and Child Health with the goal of funding **Family-to-Family Health Information Centers (F2FHIC)** in all 50 states by 2009, has awarded grants to 11 new states including Michigan, bringing the total to 41 and counting. Michigan's F2FHIC is currently operated by the Family Center for Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs. It is staffed by knowledgeable parents who provide education, information and support to families of children and youth with special health care needs. Also to providers through online and onsite training, information and referral services, access to a lending library, and family support through the Family Support Network of Michigan. For more information contact Lisa Cook-Gordon at 1-800-359-3722 or visit the F2F website at www.bridges4kids.org/f2f. ♥

The Early Adult Transition Task-Force (EATT) meeting in June was cancelled due to low enrollment. The Family Support Network encourages any young adults who would like to volunteer to become a youth support person. An example of a youth support person would be a young adult with special health care needs that would like getting in touch with someone of a similar age who wants someone to talk to or who has gone through similar experiences. The Family Center (FC) gets calls about a young adult client looking for another young adult for support. If you would like to volunteer, contact Randy Krause at the FC at 1-800-359-3722. ♥

Medical Home Update

Resources for the Medical Home: Get the information you need to offer the best care for kids who have rare genetic disorders at <http://region4genetics.org>. The information you will find is: ♦Disorder-specific information for both doctors and families ♦Location of genetic centers and specialists in Region 4 on hand to confirm the diagnosis and guidance for each condition ♦Resources and information about social and family support groups, and links to caring information for families ♦Information about the Medical Home ♦Data on newborn screening results within the seven Region 4 states to help families and doctors to know the cases of each disorder by state (*Taken from the Region4 Genetics Collaborative fact card*). ♥

Event

Michigan Supervisors for Public School Programs for Hearing Impaired (MSPSPHI):

Scholarship Program & Application Information: MSPSPHI presents its first scholarships! There are two (2) scholarships offered each for \$300. The scholarships will be awarded to persons who are deaf or hard of hearing and who are a junior OR senior in a Michigan high school. The scholarships will be awarded on Thursday, November 13, 2008 at the MSPSPHI statewide meeting in Lansing. Each application packet should include: 1.) A scholarship application form including a one-page typed paper about self expressing what sets you apart from others as well as stating goals and future plans, 2.) A letter of support from a teacher telling why this student should get this scholarship, and 3.) A copy of a hearing test. Send a completed packet by **October 1, 2008** to Kristin Knight, C/O MSU Deaf Education Program, 401E Erickson Hall, East Lansing MI 48824, Phone 517-355-1837♥

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DOSE OF HUMOR

"All of us could take a lesson from the weather. It pays no attention to criticism." *Anonymous*

